UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

JUNE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 22, 1963

TOP SECRET

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Donohue
1 - Mr. Shaw

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

This is a recommendation requesting the Attorney General's authority for the installation of a technical surveillance covering the home telephone of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as the telephone covering the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which King is the President.

You will recall that on 7/16/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. The Attorney General indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible.

[redacted]

Pursuant to the Attorney General's request that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, our Atlanta Office was requested to conduct a survey to ascertain if such coverage is feasible and could be conducted with full security. Atlanta teletype 7/20/63 discloses that technical coverage on King is feasible and can be conducted with full security.

At present there are 58 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and 6 being installed. The limit is 75.

A separate memorandum requesting Attorney General's authority to place a technical surveillance on Clarence Benjamin Jones has previously been submitted.

Enc. 7-23-63 REC 28 100-106670-165
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EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE
3/13/78

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

TOP SECRET

OBSERVATION:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible, it is felt that we should institute coverage not only on King's residence, but also on his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum for the Attorney General go forward requesting authority to install a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

OK WGS

well OK.

SEE MEMO EVANS TO BELMONT 7/25/63, CAPTIONED "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR." WHICH SETS ATTORNEY GENERAL TRANSMITTED AND DISCUSSED REQUEST FOR TESUR.

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